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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Fifth session
Geneva
12-23 November 1990

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifth session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 23 November 1990. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 12 November 1990, at 10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the fifth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the fifth session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

5. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

2. Organizational matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

In accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure, the Committee at its fourth session decided to request the Secretary-General to continue sending reminders automatically to those States parties whose initial reports were more that 12 months overdue, and subsequent reminders every six months.

Initial reports under article 19 of the Convention were due in 1988 from the 27 States parties listed in document CAT/C/5. By notes verbales dated 25 May 1989, 21 December 1989 and 26 June 1990, the Secretary-General requested the States parties which had not yet submitted their initial reports in 1988 to do so as soon as possible for appropriate transmission to the Committee.

Under rule 65 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General is required to notify the Committee at each session of all cases of non-submission of reports. Accordingly, the list of eight States parties whose initial reports were due in 1988, but had not been received as at 10 September 1990, is given below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Afghanistan	25 June 1988
Belize	25 June 1988
Bulgaria	25 June 1988
Luxembourg	28 October 1988
Panama	22 September 1988
Togo	17 December 1988
Uganda	25 June 1988
Uruguay	25 June 1988

Furthermore, initial reports under article 19 of the Convention were due in 1989 from the 10 States parties listed in document CAT/C/7. Pursuant to the decision of the Committee at its fourth session, the Secretary-General, by notes verbales dated 26 June and 16 August 1990, requested the States parties

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whose initial reports were overdue by more than 12 months to submit their reports as soon as possible for appropriate transmission to the Committee. The names of the two States whose initial reports were due in 1989, but had not been received as at 10 September 1990, is given below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Guyana	17 June 1989
Peru	5 August 1989

The 11 States parties whose initial reports under article 19 of the Convention are due in 1990 are listed in document CAT/C/9. The list of six States parties whose initial reports were due before 10 September 1990, but had not been received by that date, is given below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Australia	6 September 1990
Italy	10 February 1990
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	14 June 1990
Poland	24 August 1990
Portugal	10 March 1990
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6 January 1990

At its third and fourth sessions, the Committee also decided to request six States parties whose initial reports had been considered during those sessions to furnish an additional report pursuant to rule 67, paragraph 2, of its rule of procedure. The additional reports of Cameroon and the Netherlands (concerning Aruba) which had been requested by 30 June 1990 and 1 September 1990 respectively, had not been received by 10 September 1990.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the fifth session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Tuesday, 13 November 1990

Spain	CAT/C/5/Add.21
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	CAT/C/7/Add.4

Wednesday, 14 November 1990

Turkey	CAT/C/7/Add.6
Ecuador	CAT/C/7/Add.7

Thursday, 15 November 1990

Greece	CAT/C/7/Add.8
Netherlands Antilles	CAT/C/9/Add.2

In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States Parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its fifth session and has invited them to designate representatives to attend the meetings of the Committee.

General guidelines regarding the form and contents of initial reports to be submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention, which were adopted by the Committee at its third session, are reproduced in document CAT/C/4/Rev.1. The texts of reservations, declarations, etc., made by States parties with respect to the Convention are contained in document CAT/C/2 and Add.1-2.

5. Consideration of information under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION

Initial reports of States parties due in 1991

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In accordance with article 19, paragraph 1, of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the States parties shall submit to the Committee against Torture, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, reports on the measures they have taken to give effect to their undertakings under the Convention, within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State party concerned. Thereafter the States parties shall submit supplementary reports every four years on any new measures taken and such other reports as the Committee may request.

2. Accordingly, initial reports under article 19, paragraph 1, of the Convention are due in 1991 from seven States parties on the following dates:

Germany	30 October 1991
Guatemala	3 February 1991
Liechtenstein	1 December 1991
Malta	12 October 1991
New Zealand	8 January 1991
Paraguay	10 April 1991
Somalia	22 February 1991

3. The reports received from the States parties listed above will be issued as addenda to this document.